Friday, July 17, 2009 Contact Jim Hubbard (202) 225-2671

Congressman Carnahan Targets Dollars to High-Priority Needs

Congressman Russ Carnahan (MO-3) has made clear that now is the time to make America a leader in clean energy and less dependent on foreign oil. Today, Congressman Carnahan voted for the FY2010 Energy and Water Appropriations bill adding to other legislation already passed by the U.S. House including the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the American Clean Energy and Security Act, which when combined put America on a path to become the world's economic leader in clean energy.

"Last fall, Americans voted for change and as we continue working to get our economy going again it's important that this blueprint for change is fully implemented to create clean-energy jobs of the future right here in the U.S.," said Congressman Carnahan.

Today's bill provides \$2.25 billion to increase investments in technologies that use energy more effectively and produce clean, inexpensive energy from domestic sources including solar and biofuels, weatherization grants and energy efficient buildings.

The bill provides \$4.9 billion for scientific research designed to spur American innovation. This funding, in addition to funds appropriated last year and in the Recovery Act, exceeds the goals in the America COMPETES Act, co-sponsored by Congressman Carnahan. The COMPETES Act, passed into law in 2007, is the centerpiece of the American innovation agenda to dramatically increase innovation in basic research and math and science education.

"American scientific innovation is key to unlocking the next big 'thing'," said Congressman Carnahan.

"Today American scientists are performing critical research. We must be sure to continue funding our best and brightest so that the U.S. becomes the undisputed innovation leader, which will spur future economic success."

In addition, the bill funds additional weatherization grants to help families save money and energy by improving the energy efficiency of homes. The bill also provides \$618 million for a

variety of research and development efforts to advance lower-emission coal power, including carbon capture and storage and developing more efficient fuels.

"In addition to continuing investments in our clean-energy economy designed to create jobs the bill also makes critical investments in water infrastructure that has been neglected for years," said Carnahan. "As people struggle to find work there is no better time to rebuild our nation's infrastructure."

To address Missouri's unique water resource investment needs and the challenges of representing a district on the Mississippi River with its many tributaries Congressman Carnahan successfully included the following projects to advance flood protection and economic development:

- \$566,000 for flood wall protection in St. Louis
- \$1,500,000 to help eliminate or control combined sewer overflow
- \$500,000 for Ste. Genevieve flood protection
- \$129,000 for River Des Peres flood damage reduction

St. Louis sewers are among the oldest in the nation some dating back to the administration of President Abraham Lincoln. The funding for combined sewer overflows includes five items of work: three sewer rehabilitations, one pump station alteration and one local sewer construction.

Congressman Carnahan also led a funding letter that obtained \$20 million for Upper Mississippi River Restoration. The funding would be used to continue projects which are vital to the ecological restoration of the Upper Mississippi River, including island construction, habitat creation and long-term monitoring.

Congressman Carnahan serves on the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee as well as the Science and Technology Committee.

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